

that he will not have time to keep himself abreast of the literature of the age we live in. But with all these disadvantages I scarcely know of a place within the limits of our church where an active, energetic minister could labour with a better prospect of usefulness in the work of the ministry.

But no one labourer, however zealous and energetic, can overtake all the mission work that *must be attended to* along this Eastern Shore of our peninsula. Beyond the limits of this congregation there are several groups of families whose spiritual interests are very inadequately attended to. I give it as my deliberate opinion that we are verily guilty in not doing more for this portion of our population than we yet have done. Our church has taken an active, praiseworthy part in the foreign mission enterprise, and I hope I shall never say anything that will tend to lessen the interest of our people in behalf of the benighted pagans of Polynesia or the deluded Coolies of Trinidad. But while we are cultivating the foreign field, there is no reason why the home field should be neglected. "These ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." On my way hither I had a brief conversation with the pastor of Porter's Lake and Lawrencetown on the subject. Referring to the natural scenery of the shore districts he began to quote some appropriate lines from Heber's well known missionary hymn. When he repeated the words, "Every prospect pleases," I interrupted him by saying that he surely did not mean to apply the following words to any of the inhabitants of Nova Scotia. "Well then," said my good friend with a quiet smile, "we have certainly need of missionaries nearer home than India or the New Hebrides." Substantially the same was the testimony of my quondam colleague, Mr. McCurdy, whose hospitality I enjoyed for a day or two. Both of these brethren are labouring to the utmost of their ability for the welfare of our shore population. But their own charges are already far too large to be properly attended to, apart altogether from the bays and harbours that lie beyond the limits of their congregations. The truth is, *we must have a mis-*

sionary specially set apart to this work by Synodical authority. If a suitable person were appointed to this hitherto much neglected field of labour, I am certain that our people would cordially contribute the support requisite for his maintenance.

Such a missionary might pay occasional visits to the French-speaking inhabitants of Chezzetcook, whose forefathers were so ruthlessly expelled from old Acadia. Common justice demands that we should try and do something for their *spiritual* welfare.

I trust that this matter of a home missionary will not be lost sight of at the next meeting of Synod. I should state, to the credit of Mr. Waddell's congregation, that I received the most unbounded kindness during my five week's residence among them. The Presbytery will also be pleased to learn that a praiseworthy effort is to be put forth to do what they possibly can to sweep off all financial incumbrances. A new church is to be erected at Sheet Harbour as soon as possible. They have already secured a beautiful site on what is called Church Point—the point where the East and the West Rivers flow into the harbour. I have given them two years to complete this church; which, when completed, will be an ornament to the place and a benefit to the community. That the congregation may enjoy the favouring smile of Heaven, and continue to prosper, is the sincere desire of

T. CUMMING.

Rev. J. B. Logan's Report of Mission to Fisher's Grant.

To the Reverend the Presbytery of Pictou :

My month's service among the people of this settlement has been very pleasant, and, I have reason to hope, not altogether unprofitable. The attendance on public worship has been regular and steadily increasing.—On my last sabbath, I counted 117 persons in the school-house, and was told that several could not gain admittance and stood at the door during the service. The close attention paid, during the whole worship, was most marked, and exceedingly encouraging to the preacher. I hope some sinners were "pricked in their hearts"—I have